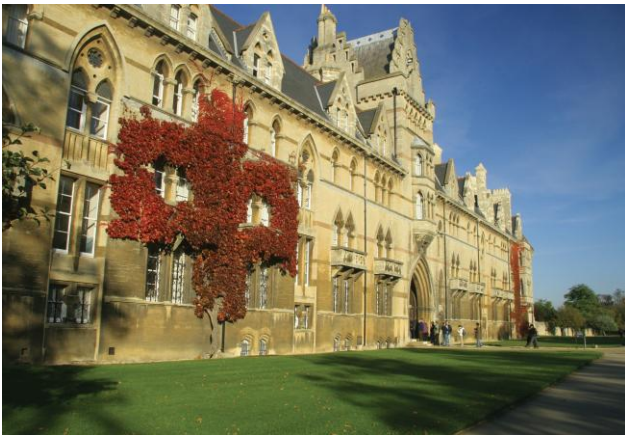




Tour Information



The Story of Oxford's Colleges





The tour commences and concludes at the **Mercure Oxford Hawkwell House Hotel, Oxford.**

Church Way

Iffley Village

Oxford

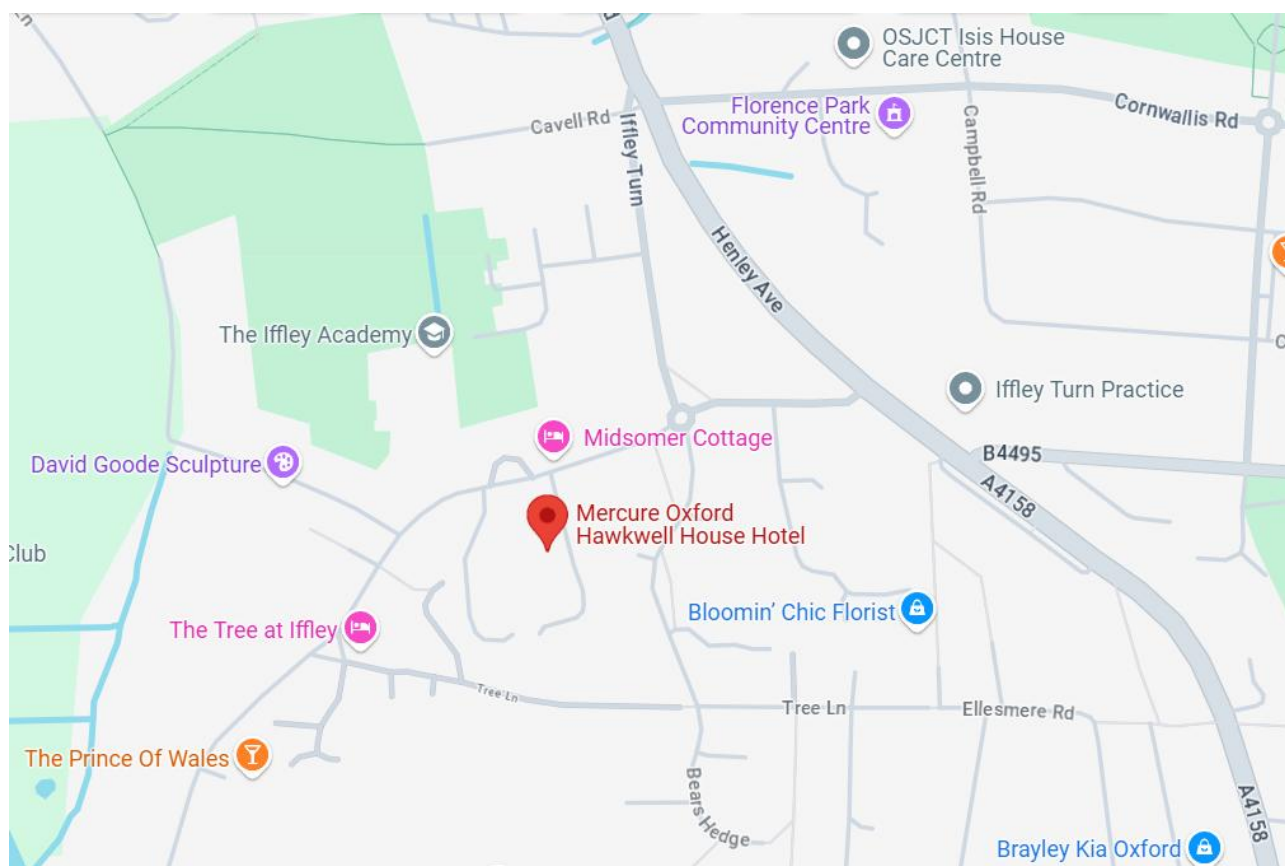
OX4 4DZ

Tel: +44(0) 1865 749 988

E-mail: hb6p4-fo1@accor.com

Transport

Please note that transport to the hotel is not included in the price of the tour.



If you are travelling by car:

From the M4:

From the M4, take junction 13 for the A34 exit to Oxford / Newbury. Drive for approx. 22 miles and then take the exit off the A34 towards Oxford / A4144. Continue on Southern By-Pass Road / A423 to Iffley.

If you are travelling by train:

The nearest train station is Oxford Railway Station, approx. a 10-minute drive from the hotel. Regular services run from London Paddington and other major cities to Oxford, and taxis or rideshares are readily available to take you to the hotel.



Accommodation

Mercure Oxford Hawkwell House Hotel

Located in the tranquil surrounds of Oxford, only 10 minutes' drive from the city centre, this four-star hotel is set among three acres of private gardens. Facilities include a bar, restaurant and refined bedrooms with modern amenities including TV, WIFI, hairdryer, safe, and tea and coffee making facilities. Complimentary parking is available at the hotel.

More information can be found via the hotel's website: mercureoxfordhawkwellhouse.com

Check-in and departure from the hotel

On the day of arrival, you will be able to check-in at the hotel from 15:00, and the tour manager and lecturer will meet you in the evening at the welcome reception.

On the last day, the tour will not finish until approximately 17:30 so you should check with your tour manager, or the hotel reception, where luggage should be stored until your departure.

Extra nights

If you have booked to stay an extra night at the hotel, this is on a bed and breakfast basis and check out from the hotel is at 12:00 noon.

Dining

On the first night, dinner with wine is provided at the hotel and included in the price of the tour. For the second evening, dinner will be provided in the hotel restaurant. Breakfast on all days of your stay is included in the price but meals other than these stated are not included.

Special requests

If you haven't already done so, please notify Travel Editions of any special requests as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to make the necessary arrangements.

Places Visited

Ashmolean Museum

Founded in 1683, at a time when the idea of the 'museum' was brand new, Britain's first public museum, the Ashmolean, was initially the home of a collection of miscellaneous manmade and natural specimens and curiosities from every corner of the world, which was presented to the University by the wealthy antiquarian and polymath, Elias Ashmole.

The neoclassical architecture of the museum dates back to 1845, when it was built to house the University's art collection. The archaeological collections were moved into the building in the 1890s to form what is, today, the Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology – one of the most important museums of art and archaeology in Britain.

www.ashmolean.org

Exeter College

Exeter is Oxford's fourth oldest college. It has occupied much of its present site since its foundation in 1314. Its founder, Walter de Stapeldon, was a Devon man who rose from a humble background to become Bishop of Exeter and Treasurer of England under Edward II. He founded the College to provide an educated clergy for his diocese. During its first centuries, Exeter drew its members mainly from Devon and Cornwall. Victorian undergraduates who went on to achieve fame include Sir Charles Lyell, the pioneering geologist, J. A. Froude, the historian, and two of the leading pre-Raphaelites, William Morris and Edward Burne-Jones. Important works by Morris and Burne-Jones are on view in the Morris Room and Chapel.

www.exeter.ox.ac.uk

Trinity College

Trinity College was founded in 1555 by Sir Thomas Pope, a wealthy statesman and devout Catholic, during the reign of Queen Mary I. Built on the site of the former Durham College (a Benedictine institution dating back to the 13th century), Trinity inherited a legacy of monastic scholarship. The Pope envisioned a college that would promote learning and religious devotion, and he endowed it generously to ensure its longevity. Over the centuries, Trinity has evolved into a vibrant academic community, known for its elegant quadrangles, expansive gardens, and distinguished alumni—including three British prime ministers. Its blend of Tudor architecture and later additions reflects Oxford's layered history.

www.trinity.ox.ac.uk

Christ Church College

Christ Church is a unique institution, one of the largest colleges in the University of Oxford and the Cathedral Church for the Diocese of Oxford. It has a world famous Cathedral Choir and scholarly collections of books and art. Christ Church has a fascinating history and many distinguished people have studied there including John Locke, Robert Hooke, John Wesley, Robert Peel, William Gladstone, W.H. Auden, David Dimbleby, Rowan Williams, Richard Curtis and Howard Goodall.

www.chch.ox.ac.uk/college

New College

New College is one of Oxford's oldest and best-known Colleges. Situated in the heart of the city, our main site is one of the most beautiful in Oxford, boasting the earliest planned College quadrangle and spectacular gardens set against the medieval city wall.

www.new.ox.ac.uk

Your Guides

Alastair and Kate Lack will be your guides during the tour. Alastair is a member of the Oxford Guild of Guides and former Secretary of the Oxford University Society.

Alastair will give the following talk during the tour:

“The history of the University of Oxford”.

In this talk, Alastair explains the origins of Oxford, the oldest university in the English speaking world, the reasons behind the collegiate system of learning and living, and how Oxford came to have the finest collection of medieval buildings in England.

Practical Information

Tour manager - Your tour manager will be on hand throughout the tour to ensure that everything operates according to plan. If you have any problems or questions please see him or her immediately – it is often possible to resolve complaints or problems very quickly on the spot, and do everything to help you enjoy your holiday.

Tipping –To keep our tours affordable, we do not increase the tour price by adding in tips. However, in the tourism industry, there is a certain level of expectation that when receiving a good service, one does award with a tip. Tour managers, representatives, guides and drivers appreciate a tip at the end of their involvement with the tour, but this is entirely at your discretion. We believe in allowing you to tip according to your level of satisfaction with their services.

Grading – This tour has been graded as **Demanding**: On your feet all day, uneven terrain (e.g. cobbles).

Insurance

Although this is a UK holiday please note that, should you cancel your holiday, the amount paid is non-refundable. For this reason you may wish to take out insurance just in case an unforeseen event caused you to have to cancel the tour. As well as covering cancellations, your travel insurance will also cover your baggage and personal belongings in case they are lost or stolen.

Emergencies

Should an emergency arise, please call our offices on:
020 7251 0045

Outside office hours (Mon-Fri 09:00-17:00), telephone our emergency staff on:
07841 023807 or 07441 343850

PLEASE USE THESE NUMBERS ONLY IN THE EVENT OF A GENUINE EMERGENCY.

Travel Editions

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Email: info@traveleditions.co.uk www.traveleditions.co.uk

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